



JAFFREY-RINDGE

COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Administrative Unit #47

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January 26, 2009

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Received & Inspected

FEB 17 2009

FCC Mail Room

Billed Entity Number 121093
Funding Request Number 1596955

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45 and CC Docket No. 02-6 - Request for Waiver

To Whom It May Concern:

I respectfully request that reconsideration be given to our late filing of the 2007-08 Form 486 and also to our delay in filing this appeal. My request is based on the fact that both delays were caused by circumstances beyond our control.

The SAU 47 Form 486 was filed late because our Business Manager retired in July of 2007, in the midst of the Erate process. He was the only person authorized to handle our Erate application. Unfortunately, his position was not filled, and the responsibility for completing the Erate process was not reassigned. By the time that I was reminded of the need to file a Form 486 the deadline had passed.

Early in November we received the 486 Notification Letter indicating that our Funding Commitment had been reduced from \$22,833.00 to \$1,902.75 because the 486 had been filed late. We intended to follow the appeal process as outlined in the notification letter and planned on submitting our appeal within the 60 days we were given to respond.

Unfortunately, on December 11th and 12th, southern New Hampshire, and especially the Jaffrey-Rindge area, was hit with a devastating ice storm. The storm knocked out power to an estimated 1.4 million homes and all the schools in SAU 47. The schools were officially closed until January 5, 2009 after President Bush declared a state of emergency for New Hampshire and nine of Massachusetts 14 counties.

The delay in filing our Form 486 and this appeal were the result of losing the one person responsible for filing our Erate funding and the lost time and havoc caused by a natural disaster. Imposing the penalty and reducing our Erate funding by more than \$20,000 represents another detrimental blow to SAU 47. We hope that you will reconsider the decision and please reinstate our Erate funding.

Sincerely Yours,

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U.S. ice storm blacks out 1.25 million

KATHY MCCORMACK

CONCORD—The Northeast has been battered by one of the nastiest ice storms in memory, leaving about 1.25 million homes and businesses in the dark across seven different states.

Outages extend from Pennsylvania up to Maine.

Most of the blackouts are in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine and New York.

More than half of the homes and businesses in New Hampshire were without power, and people there aren't hesitating to check into the 25 shelters set up across the state.

Officials across the region concede it'll likely be several days before everyone is up and running again.

The storm is also blamed for at least one death, after a man living in a camper died of carbon monoxide poisoning when he turned on a generator inside his home after his power went out Thursday night.

Utility crews worked through a night of hand-numbing cold in the Northeast but they still had a long way to go before restoring power to all of the more than 1 million homes and businesses blacked out by the huge ice storm.

In New Hampshire, where more than 370,000 customers still had no electricity Saturday, Gov. John Lynch urged residents still without power to make overnight plans early.

"I think there were a lot of people who decided to just stick it out and stay home last night hoping that power would be restored today, but I think people have to assume that power will not come back today and seek shelter," Lynch said.

Utilities say it will be days before all service is restored.

Temperatures dipped into the teens Friday night and early Saturday in northern New England, forcing many people out of their homes and into shelters.

About 60 people spent the night at the Rochester, N.H., Middle School, including Debbie Reed, 57, who left her apartment Friday afternoon when she started seeing her breath.

"I still don't have power. I can't shower, I can't cook, I can't do much of anything," she said. "My plan is to go home and see how long I can stand it. If the power isn't back on by tonight I'll come back here. It's so cold I can only stand it for so long."

The ice storm compared with some of the Northeast's worst, especially in New Hampshire, where more than half the state — 400,000-plus homes and businesses — was without power at the peak of the outage. Far fewer customers were affected by the infamous Ice Storm of '98, when some residents spent more than a week in the dark. New Hampshire opened at least 25 shelters.

People lost power as far south as Pennsylvania, but most of the outages were in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine and New York.

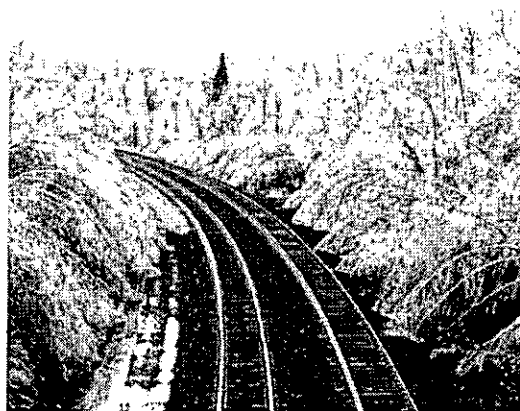
"This is pathetic," said Bob Cott of Portland, Maine. "I'm already sick of winter and we have nine days to go before it officially begins."

At least one death was blamed on the storm: New Hampshire officials said a man died of carbon monoxide poisoning after turning on his generator when his power went out Thursday night.

Both Lynch and Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick declared states of emergency Friday and called up members of the National Guard. Maine Gov. John Baldacci declared a limited emergency allowing utility crews to work longer hours.

"All of the resources at our disposal have been made available to try to get the roads clear and power restored," said Patrick, adding that it would be "ambitious" to think power would be restored by Monday to the 350,000 homes and businesses that lost service in his state.

"This is not going to be a couple of hours," Patrick said. "It's likely to be several



AP Photo/The Berkshire Eagle, Ben Garver
Trees bent by the weight of ice from a winter storm line railroad tracks in Hinsdale, Mass., Friday, Dec. 12, 2008.



(AP Photo/Globe, John Tlumacki)
After the ice storm that coated the Worcester, Mass., area, fallen branches cover Brattle Street on Friday, Dec. 12, 2008.



AP Photo/Jason R. Henske
Low hanging wires block Route 11 in Chester, Vt. Friday December 12, 2008 after an ice storm coated southern Vermont with ice through Thursday night and Friday morning.

days."

An army of utility crews from across the East, Midwest and Canada headed into the region to help restore power.

By Saturday morning, crews had restored power to about 150,000 homes and businesses in Massachusetts, but more than 200,000 still were in the dark.

Peter Judge of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency said that despite the cold, fewer than 1,000 residents took advantage of the 40 shelters set up across the state.

In Maine, about 176,000 homes and businesses still were without power Saturday, mostly in Central Maine Power's service area. At its peak on Friday, 220,000 CMP customers were in the dark. Maine officials say 150 to 200 people spent the night in shelters.

Vermont utilities reported just under 15,000 customers were without power Saturday morning.

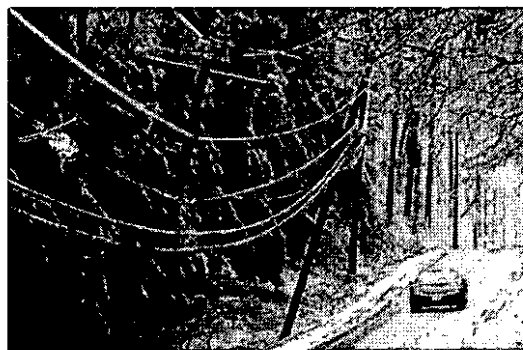
Central Vermont Public Service Corp. had 33 line crews from western Pennsylvania helping its workers repair power lines. A number of retirees also pitched in, said CVPS spokeswoman Christine Rivers.

"We'd put one line up, and it seemed like another would break," said CVPS Springfield Operations Supervisor Stan Tucker. "It seems like every line has multiple problems."

In eastern New York, National Grid and other utilities reported more than 255,000 customers without service.

"Trees were down on all the roads," said Miguel Figueroa, 28, as he waited for coffee at a Starbucks in Colonie, N.Y. "... I couldn't even get on the Thruway today."

About 4,700 customers lost power in Pennsylvania, most of them in the Poconos, and some 17,000 customers were blacked out in Connecticut.



AP Photo/Jim Cole
Leaning utility poles hang over the road after an ice storm in Weare, N.H., Friday, Dec. 12, 2008. Hundreds of thousands of people in New England lost power after the storm.

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President Declares Ice Storm Major Disaster

Declaration Opens Up Public Assistance For Storm Costs

POSTED: 2:41 pm EST January 2, 2009

UPDATED: 5:21 pm EST January 2, 2009

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CONCORD, N.H. -- December's ice storm has been declared a major disaster by the federal government, making public assistance available.

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President George W. Bush granted Gov. John Lynch's request on Friday. The declaration means communities affected by the storm in the state's 10 counties will be eligible for public assistance to help cover the costs of emergency operations and repairs.

"I'm pleased that President Bush has issued this disaster declaration to provide assistance to our hard-hit communities," Lynch said.

Preliminary damage estimates put the cost of the storm at more than \$15 million.

The declaration does not provide individual assistance or help for businesses through the Small Business Administration. State agencies are continuing to work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to apply for that aid.

The state has a hot line set up for anyone with questions or concerns related to the ice storm at 888-330-6764.

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